RG104 E-1 Box 160

Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT.

Washington, D. C., December 4, 1889., *188* .

The Superintendent, U.S. Mint,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I send by express to day the models of the "Joseph Francis" medal to be struck under a Joint Resolution of Congress approved August 27, I888, which reads as follows:

Resolved x x x That in view of the life-long services to humanity and to his country of the now venerable Joseph Francis, in the construction and perfection of life-saving appliances by which many thousands of lives have been saved, the Director of the Mint is hereby authorized and required to strike a gold medal, with a suitable device and inscription, prepared under the direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, to be presented by the President of the United States to Mr. Francis, in recognition of his eminent services.

Sec. 2. That a sufficient sum of money to carry this resolution into effect is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

The models have been submitted to inspection on the part of Mr. Francis and his friends and Senator Evarts, the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Library.

The only defect to which attention has been attracted is in the representation of the cylinder on the life boat, which has the appearance of a hand rail. This defect can be remedied by the die-sinker, and I desire to call special attention to it at this time. In order that he may have the necessary representations with which to remedy

RG104 E-1 Box 160

this defect I enclose with the drawings of the medal two photographs of the life car.

It is my desire, and the wish of the Chairman of the Committee on Library, that the medal for Mr. Francis be of the largest size which the press will take, and that it be executed in the very best mechanical and artistic manner, and at the earliest practicable moment. The medal will be of fine gold.

I presume the medal should be made of a diameter of four inches and of such thickness as would best correspond to a medal of such diameter.

You will understand that I desire that you will put your best engraver at once on this work, and spare no pains to have it executed in the finest style of art, both the engraving and the striking of the medal.

As Mr. Francis has now reached the ripe age of eighty-six years his friends are anxious that no time shall be lost in the manufacture of this medal, so you will please give the matter your earliest and best attention.

Very respectfully,

E. P. Leech

Director.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 160

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Bureau of the Mint,
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